

JOSEPH R. MURDOCK

The name of Hon. Joseph R. Murdock of Charleston and Heber City is synonymous with the development of irrigation interests in the West. He has contributed to public progress along various lines and in no field have his labors been more far-reaching and resultant than in behalf of the reclamation of the arid lands through the conservation and distribution of the water supply of this section of the country. Mr. Murdock's efforts in this connection alone entitle him to rank not only with the cap-

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tains of industry, but with the benefactors of the race. The story of his life is an interesting one—the record of earnest endeavor crowned with successful achievement.

Mr. Murdock was born in Salt Lake City, August 11, 1858, his parents being N. C. and Sarah M. (Barney) Murdock. In 1864, N. C. Murdock removed to Charleston, Wasatch County, Utah.

Joseph R. Murdock was reared to young manhood upon his father's farm and was educated in the schools of Charleston, supplemented by study in the Brigham Young Academy, now the Brigham Young University. In 1872 he became associated with his father in farming and stock raising and carried on the business extensively. They also established the first creamery in Charleston and further extended the scope of their activities. They opened a general merchandise store in 1875, their trade steadily growing into a business which was incorporated in 1890, at which time Joseph R. Murdock was elected the manager of the enterprise.

There is no man more widely or favorably known as a representative of the irrigation interests of the West. He has done more beyond a doubt to further irrigation than has any other one man in the state of Utah, or perhaps in the West. He organized the Provo Reservoir Company, of which he is president. This project now supplies water to 10,000 acres of land and

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has sufficient water for 10,000 acres additional. The project was developed at a cost of a million dollars. The main office of the company is in the Knight Building at Provo. Mr. Murdock also is the president of the Bank of Heber City, which does a business amounting to one-half million dollars annually, and he is the president of the Sugar Centrifugal Discharging Company of Salt Lake City, manufacturers of sugar machinery and employing about 30 men.

In 1878, Mr. Murdock was married to Miss Margaret Wright, a daughter of William and Jemima (Dands) Wright. They became parents of 11 children.

In 1903, Mr. Murdock removed with his family to Heber and was there, in 1905, called to the presidency of the Wasatch Stake, which he has since filled. In politics, Mr. Murdock is a Democrat and was a staunch supporter of President Wilson and his League of Nations policy. He served three terms as county commissioner of Wasatch County and was a member of the constitutional convention. He was also a member of the lower house of the Utah Legislature during the first and second sessions of the general assembly, and in the fall of 1900 he was elected state senator. During that session he was the father of the dairy bill, which was enacted into law, and he served on many important committees. He gave most earnest and thoughtful consideration to all the vital questions which came up for settlement during his legislative career, and left the impress of his individuality and ability upon the assembly enactments. He still owns and maintains his home in Heber and also, because of his business relations there, he has a home in Provo, he and his family dividing their time between the two cities.

The life record of Joseph R. Murdock is indeed a creditable one. His life has been actuated by high purposes and earnest endeavor, productive of splendid results, and among Utah's most useful and honored citizens Joseph R. Murdock is named.

In March of 1873 he married Mary Elvira Gallagher in the Salt Lake Endowment House. They were the parents of nine children: John Gallagher, who died in childhood; Amelia Brittingham, who married William Witt; Eunice Sweet, who married Orson Thomas Hicken; Eliza, who married Archibald Sellers; Mary Elvira, who died in infancy; Pearl, who married George Buckley; Joseph Stacy, who married Zina Hill; Sarah Esther, who married Glen Thurman, and Heber, who married Effie Morton. Mary Elvira died in 1890.

On December 14, 1895, John married Emily A. Bond in the Salt Lake Temple. They were the parents of six children, Marella Irene, who married George B. Stanley; Leah, who married Lee Kay; Paul Bond; Thomas Calvin; Ellen, who married Leland Stanford Patton, and Edith Mary Murdock.

John H. was an active member of the Church all his life, filling a colonizing mission to St. Johns, Arizona, from 1884 to 1890, and a mission to the Southern States in 1907 and 1908. He served on the High Council of Wasatch Stake and was president of the St. Johns Irrigation Co. and the Wasatch Irrigation Co. He also was president of the High Priests' Quorum and was active in the Sunday School. He served as a member of the Heber City Council, the Charleston School Board and was prominent in the Democratic party. He also had been a member of the brass band and owned the Heber Confectionery. He was marshal for several years. In later life he moved to Provo, where he lived until his death. At 80 he took up the hobby of painting and received several blue ribbons at county fairs.

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WILLIAM MURDOCH



William Murdoch was born in Gaswater Ayr, Scotland, on July 3, 1825, to James and Mary Murray Murdoch. He was the youngest child in a family of eight. He married Mary Reid Lindsay in 1887, widow of Samuel Lindsay, Margret Lennox in Scotland. She died in Scotland.

His father died when he was six years of age and, like others in his family, had to find work to assist his widowed mother. His schooling was a short time in winter months between the ages of six and 13.

His first job was herding sheep on the bonnie heather hills near his home. He had learned to knit, so carried his work with him as he herded the sheep, making socks for himself and other members of the family. He continued this hobby throughout his 88 years.

At the age of 16 he went into the coal mines at Muirkirk and later became underground manager for the Eglinton Coal & Iron Works at Muirkirk. He held this position many years. In 1846 he was married to Janet Lennox, and to that union were born five children.

He joined the Church in 1876. All other members of his family already had joined the Church, except James D., who was in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In 1877 they left Muirkirk and moved to Kilmarnock to make preparations to come to America. It was here that his wife Janet passed away. Her body was taken to Muirkirk and laid beside that of her daughter Elizabeth, who was buried there in 1864.

Letters of encouragement came regularly from his brother, John M., and a sister, Mary M. Mair, who, with their families,

